



## TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Date: March 12, 2008

Time: 10:00am-2:00 pm

Location: Council Building, Dix Campus

TYPE OF MEETING		Quarterly Meeting		
FACILITATOR		Marilyn Lash, Chairperson		
ATTENDEES				
NAME	PRESENT	NAME	PRESENT	
(Council Members)				GUESTS
Marie Britt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Ornitz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Espinosa
Spencer Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jo Perkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marian Hartman
Michele Elliott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grey Powell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Hale (for Holli Hoffman)
Sandra Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sharon Rhyne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Betsy MacMichael
Martin Foil	<input type="checkbox"/>	Holly Riddle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Smith
David Forsythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scott Sagraves	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Harris
Travis Glass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Seligson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flo Stein
Flora Hammond	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elsie Siebelink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tami Guerrier (for Flora Hammond)
Tonia Harrison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Winton	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Linda Herbert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Holli Hoffman	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Steve Hooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ana King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marilyn Lash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff to Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Chuck Monnett	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandy Ellsworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Liz Newlin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jan White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Patrick O'Brien	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

### 1. Agenda topic: Welcome, Introductions

Marilyn Lash

<b>Discussion</b>	Ms. Lash welcomed everyone and members introduced themselves. Two new Council members have been appointed in family member positions, Linda Herbert and Carol Ornitz.		
<b>Conclusions</b>			
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	
New member packets will be given to Carol and Linda.	Jan White	3/31/08	

### 2. Agenda topic: Review of Minutes

Marilyn Lash

<b>Discussion</b>	Minutes were reviewed and Ms. Lash thanked Sandy Ellsworth for the new format for the minutes. No corrections were noted. Mr. Forsythe made a motion to adopt the minutes, second by Mr. Powell. Motion passed.		
<b>Conclusions</b>	The minutes were adopted as presented.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	
The minutes will be posted on the web.	Janice White	3/31/08	

**3. Agenda topic: DMH Leadership Presentation****Flo Stein**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Ms. Lash introduced Ms. Flo Stein from the Division of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Substance Abuse Services. Ms. Stein thanked the Council for scheduling a meeting with her a few weeks ago and for having her today to address the full Council. She discussed the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Advisory Council's meeting with Secretary Benton.</li> <li>• Budget proposals for general TBI and Veterans initiatives; both passed onto Governor's office.</li> <li>• TBI representation at the Coalition is important. The Coalition is a legislative advocacy group of non-profit organizations representing consumers with disabilities.</li> <li>• Information regarding the Legislative Oversight Committee, where the Advisory Council is free to make a statement during the public input period of the meetings.</li> <li>• Important to stay informed regarding changes in LMEs.</li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions</b>	The TBI Advisory Council is active and involved on many fronts and needs to continue to be engaged in reform and active in advocacy.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	
Brain Injury fact sheets should be distributed to every legislator's office.	Council/Lash/Farmer	5/1/08	
Look at Developmental Therapies service definition.	Sandy Ellsworth		
Find sponsor for legislation to change terminology from TBI to ABI.	Council/Perkins	4/15/08	

**4. Agenda topic: Veterans Initiative****John Harris**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Ms. Lash introduced Mr. John Harris, Veteran's liaison from the Division. Mr. Harris reported that the Veterans initiative started in the Division about a year ago and that his position started just 3 months ago. Mr. Harris's position focused on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Guard and Reserves</li> <li>• Collaborative efforts between Divisions and agencies</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Families of Guard and Reserves</li> <li>• Treatment and referrals</li> </ul> <p>The Division veterans committee is looking at several initiatives including a family assessment and the use of telemedicine.</p>		
<b>Conclusions</b>	Much work is yet to be done on connecting services for veterans, including services for substance abuse, mental health and TBI.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	

**5. Agenda topic: DMH Lead Agency Report****Sandy Ellsworth****Jan White**

<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division had 1.7 million dollars this fiscal year for TBI which was distributed to the LMEs using a per capita formula. A letter was written from the Council by Ms Lash to be sent to the LMEs requesting information be reported to Ms Ellsworth regarding the number of consumers with TBI who were served and the amount of funds spent.</li> <li>• There is an ongoing effort to fill vacant slots on the Advisory Council. The two most recent appointments were completed in a very timely manor.</li> <li>• The present CAP MR/DD waiver is now being revised as mandated by the legislature. The new waiver will have four tiers of service for consumers and carry provisions for consumer self-direction if so desired.</li> <li>• There is an ongoing effort to look at service definitions and make revisions if appropriate. New service definitions may be considered.</li> <li>• The development of Crisis Teams is ongoing and the Division is now looking at adding a DD team. The recommendation has been made that the DD team should include at least one TBI expert.</li> <li>• Prevention efforts are ongoing with the veterans' initiative as well as the Division on Aging and Adult Services around identification of TBI after a fall.</li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions</b>			
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	

**6. Agenda topic: Disability Rights North Carolina Vicki Smith**

<b>Discussion</b>	Vicki Smith, Executive Director of Disability Rights North Carolina explained that this organization is now the Protection and Advocacy agency for TBI, taking over after the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities was dissolved. Ms. Smith offered a detailed explanation of how the agency worked. She stated that with regard to TBI the agency was looking at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The concept of TBI falling under DD in this state and the implications due to age restrictions</li> <li>• Working to get consumers with TBI out of nursing homes</li> <li>• The implications of waivers</li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions</b>	If you know a consumer who feels that his or her rights have been violated please refer them to the DRNC office, which has an 800 number. Services are available in Spanish and calls are returned within 2 business days.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	

**7. Agenda topic: TBI Position Paper Update Sharon Rhyne**

<b>Discussion</b>	Sharon Rhyne reported that the paper will be ready within the next few weeks. Areas where more detailed information is still needed include DPI, the Center for Development and Learning and the waiver. The executive summary also needs to be written.		
<b>Conclusions</b>			
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	
An executive summary of the paper needs to be written. Position paper will be presented to present administration and new administration after election.	Ms. Rhyne & Ms. Lash Council	4/1/08	

**8. Agenda topic: Proposed Changes to Advisory Council Membership Jo Perkins  
Marian Hartman**

<b>Discussion</b>	Recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All state members should have "ex-officio" status which means they will be non-voting members to avoid conflicts of interest.</li> <li>• Add two "at large" positions. This decision will be made by the Council chair. For example eliminate one of the nursing positions and allow this to be an at large position.</li> <li>• Language correction to the LME and HSR positions.</li> <li>• Adding a position from State Operated Services.</li> <li>• Adding a position from DRNC as the P&amp;A agency for the state.</li> <li>• Change wording on MD and nursing descriptions to be more inclusive (i.e. PM&amp;R MD and school nurse).</li> <li>• Adding position for Veteran or family member of veteran.</li> </ul> A motion was made by Ms. Rhyne with a second by Ms. Newlin to accept proposed changes to the Council membership as stated.		
<b>Conclusions</b>	Changes will be made as recommended above. The By-Laws will need to be changed as well to reflect the position changes.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	
Work with Speaker Hackney's office and DMH legislative liaison to process recommended changes.	Jo Perkins, Marian Hartman	5/1/08	

**9. Agenda topic: Trust Fund and Policy Initiatives Sandra Farmer  
Ana King**

<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From meetings that have occurred it has been recommended that instead of calling this a "TBI Trust Fund" it may be more beneficial to call it a "Special Fund". An Issue Brief was developed with all salient points of the issue clearly stated. A copy was distributed to Council and will be used with legislators.</li> <li>• Mr. Powell suggested that other funding mechanisms such as an endowment or foundation may want to be explored.</li> <li>• Ms. Herbert distributed the application for the special TBI license plate, which, when available will generate some funds.</li> </ul>		
<b>Conclusions</b>	All means of funding for TBI continue to be explored.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	

It was recommended the some research into endowments and foundations be initiated.	Ms. Lash/Council members	Ongoing
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**10. Agenda topic: Committee Reports** **Committee Members**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p><b><u>Committee Reports:</u></b></p> <p><b>Legislative Committee Report: Sandra Farmer</b>  Ms. Farmer reported that she attended the candidates' forum which was sponsored by the coalition and that the gubernatorial candidates were unaware that TBI is funded through DD. A group from the Council has met with Grier Martin, representative for Wake County. TBI issues have also been discussed with other members of the legislature. A meeting is pending with Speaker Hackney, Representative Insko and Senator Nesbitt to discuss TBI issues.</p> <p><b>Health Services Report: Michele Elliott</b>  Ms. Elliott reported that no meetings had been held since the last Council meeting. Ms. Elliott and Mr. Forsythe will meet with Ms. Lash to discuss next steps; perhaps involvement with the revision of the Division's service definitions.</p> <p><b>Prevention Committee Report: Liz Newlin</b>  Ms. Newlin reported that the injury prevention survey is still under revision but is coming along. This survey should be ready by the summer. It will be sent to various agencies across the state to see where TBI prevention may be added into existing injury prevention programs.</p>		
<b>Conclusions</b>			
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	

Ms. Lash thanked everyone for their participation. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm.